GENERAL

Distinguished Visitors. Among the many notable persons who visited Bahrain during the year were H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent and H.R.H. the Duke of Kent, who were on their way to the Far East. H.H. Shaikh Abdulla As Salim, Ruler of Kuwait paid his usual visit to the country ; H.E. Ghulam Mohammed, Governor General of Pakistan, stayed for a night on his way to Saudi Arabia. Other visitors were H.E. Dr. Mohammed Fadhel Al Jamali, Prime Minister of Iraq ; Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck ; His Eminence Jirgis Daoud Kandila, Metropolitan of the Syrian Catholic Church ; a group of British Members of Parliament ; numerous rulers of the Shaikhdoms of the Trucial Coast ; foreign diplomats ; journalists of many nationalities and senior British and American Army, Navy and Air Force Officers.

Coronation of King Faisal. H.E. Shaikh Isa, the eldestson of His Highness, represented his father at the coronation in Baghdad in June of H.M. King Faisal II. He was accompanied by several of his relations. The Bahrain delegation travelled to and from Baghdad by air.

Postage Stamps. A Bahrain 1¼ Anna stamp, for internal postage, bearing a portrait of His Highness Shaikh Sulman, was brought into circulation during the year. Some progress was made in the process of the Government gradually taking over the administration of the postal services.

"Caltex Bahrain." The new oil tanker, *Caltex Bahrain*, was launched in December, in England. The launching ceremony was performed by Lady Belgrave.

Pepsi Cola Factory. Mr. Husain Ahmedi, a local merchant, built a factory on the south-west of Manama for making Pepsi Cola. This is the first enterprise of this type which has been undertaken in Bahrain.

Stamped Paper and Title Deeds. The Government adopted a new design of stamped paper, which is used for agreements, receipts, powers of attorney, etc. New forms were also introduced for title deeds.

Anglican Church. The building of an Anglican Church was completed on a site east of the Fort which was presented to the Anglican Community by His Highness Shaikh Sulman.

Agriculture. No report on agriculture has been included this year as Mr. J. Edmond, the Agricultural Officer, completed his period of contract with the Government and proceeded on leave, pending retirement, on 15th September, 1952.

Mr. Van Ollenbach was appointed Agricultural Officer and began his duties on 5th January, 1953.

HIS HIGHNESS SHAIKH SULMAN'S VISIT TO ENGLAND

His Highness Shaikh Sulman left Bahrain, by air, on 13th May and arrived back in his country on June 26th. His party consisted of his youngest son, Shaikh Mohammed bin Sulman, Sir Charles and Lady Belgrave, Mr. Husain Yateem and two secretaries.

He travelled by air to Beirut where he stayed for one night ; by sea, in S.S. *Esperia*, to Venice where he stayed for three days ; by train to Montreux, on the Lake of Geneva, where he spent four days, and on by train to Paris where he stayed for two nights. He reached London on May 28th.